

From: Governor Cooper's Press Office [govpress@nc.gov]
Sent: 9/22/2017 3:54:17 PM
To: Shoemaker, Claudia G [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=db367e81f1f04ec688e37c727c84d320-cgshoemaker]
Subject: Weekly Newsletter: September 22, 2017



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR ROY COOPER

Highlights of the Week

Helping Communities Recover from Hurricane Matthew



On Thursday, Gov. Cooper traveled to Fair Bluff to thank students and staff of Columbus Career and College Academy (CCCA) for their volunteerism during and after Hurricane Matthew. Amid the devastation from Matthew, CCCA acted as a Red Cross emergency shelter, taking in neighbors affected by the hurricane. The governor also visited residents at a housing complex that recently reopened after being severely damaged in Hurricane Matthew.

"Help can't come quick enough for those who have been left homeless from a hurricane," Cooper said. "The recovery process is long and we still have a lot more work to do. We need to get people back into their former homes or into new, safer homes."

[Read more about the governor's hurricane recovery visit here.](#)

6 Million Meals for Meals on Wheels



On Wednesday, Gov. Cooper and First Lady Kristin Cooper delivered the 6 millionth meal with the Meals on Wheels program in Winston-Salem. The governor and first lady met with Rosalie Young, a Meals on Wheels recipient, and talked with her about the importance of the program to seniors across North Carolina. Gov. Cooper also recognized the hard work of the many volunteers who fight hunger statewide.

"These volunteers knock on people's doors and they visit them and deliver nutrition," Gov. Cooper said. "But they offer kindness and friendship and companionship and deliver a message on behalf of this community that we care about you."

[Read more about Gov. Cooper's Meals on Wheels visit here.](#)

Protecting Our Drinking Water



On Thursday, Gov. Cooper vetoed House Bill 56, arguing that the legislation only symbolically addresses unregulated, emerging contaminants in North Carolina's drinking water. HB 56 does not provide resources to state agencies whose mission is to protect drinking water from illegal chemicals. The bill also unduly rolls back environmental protections regarding landfills, river basins and beaches.

"This cynical legislation fails to address the concerns of families in the Cape Fear region and does nothing to protect drinking water statewide going forward," said Gov. Cooper.

[Read Gov. Cooper's full statement here.](#)

NC Joins U.S. Climate Alliance



This week, Gov. Cooper announced that North Carolina will join the U.S. Climate Alliance, a bipartisan coalition currently made of 15 states that are committed to reducing their share of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

"Clean air and a healthy environment are vital for a strong economy and a healthier future," Gov. Cooper said. "So much of North Carolina's economy relies on protecting our treasured natural resources, and I'm committed to maintaining the quality of their air we breathe for generations to come."

This is just the latest action taken by the Cooper Administration to help combat climate change. Gov. Cooper recently signed into law House Bill 589, Competitive Energy Solutions for North Carolina, which will roughly double North Carolina's solar generation over the next four years.

[Learn more about North Carolina's role in the U.S. Climate Alliance here.](#)

Wishing Livingstone College Students Well at Fall Convocation



On Friday, Gov. Cooper traveled to Salisbury to deliver a fall convocation address to students and faculty at Livingstone College, a historically black college. During his remarks, the governor encouraged students set intentions for the upcoming schoolyear and the years to follow.

"Living with purpose means something different for every person," Gov. Cooper said. "I'd like to share with you what living a life of purpose means to me, and then I'd like to challenge you to think about what it means to you."

Photo of the Week

WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL

September 25, 2017 \$1.00

THURSDAY

www.wsj.com



Festival puts the diversity of Hispanic cultures on display / relich

Dewey's introducing line of six cookies for wholesale market / A4

Maria destroys homes, triggers flooding

Category 4 hurricane knocks out power all across Puerto Rico

BY JAMES HAMILTON

WINDSTORM MARIA — The strongest hurricane to hit Puerto Rico in more than 60 years devastated hundreds of homes, knocked out power across the entire island and caused some areas, including some major highways, to be cut off for days.

Leaving almost 3 million people dead in its wake across the Caribbean, Maria hit Puerto Rico as a Category 4 storm with winds of 155 mph. It pummeled the island of 3.4 million people with life-threatening winds for several hours, the worst since 1968 when that Puerto Rico was hit by a Category 5 storm.



Local family awaits word on Maria's damage to home

BY JAMES HAMILTON

People of Puerto Rico and the family have lived through at least 19 big hurricanes and many smaller ones in the history of the island, but they agree both Maria and Irma were unprecedented in their magnitude.

Quake relief push begins

Local groups plan to send water, food and other vital aid

BY JAMES HAMILTON

Local churches and the American Red Cross are beginning their relief efforts to help earthquake victims in Mexico.

A 7.3 magnitude earthquake struck central Mexico on Tuesday, killing at least 250 people. Police, firefighters and ordinary citizens dug through the rubble of collapsed schools, houses and apartment buildings Wednesday, looking for survivors.

Tuesday's quake struck on the 10th anniversary of the 2001 earthquake in Mexico that killed about 15,000 people. The San Francisco earthquake, the most powerful of 12,000 in the region.

Winston-Salem's First Presbyterian Church in Kernersville said it spoke with church leaders Wednesday and discussed how they can help the earthquake victims in Mexico. The church is usually planning worship and social events in the city.

"It's a very sad situation," the church's pastor said. "There is no doubt that we will be involved in the right way to do it."

He said Winston is suffering from Tuesday's quake just as relief work that happened Sept. 7 at the rescue's birth. That is a significant quake killed at least 10 people and destroyed a large part of the city.

Maria inside

Winston-Salem Journal

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6 million meals



Gen. Ray Cooper (right) and his wife, Betty, deliver the official 6 millionth meal to the program on Tuesday, Sept. 25, in the Cooper's neighborhood.

Cooper honors Senior Services' Meals on Wheels as program hits milestone

BY JAMES HAMILTON

Winston-Salem, N.C., on Tuesday celebrated the 6 millionth meal delivered to the program's home on Grand Hills Drive, where she has lived the past 17 years.

"It's very nice to have 6 million meals delivered to my home," Cooper said. "I've lived here for 17 years, and I've been receiving meals for those years. I feel so blessed."

Cooper and Cooper's daughter, Cheryl, who lives in the program's home, said they are proud of the program and the meals it delivers to the community.

Cooper said it took a lot of people to make the day, and she was grateful for everyone's help.

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Killers: Corbett at fault in death

Irish businessman's wife, father-in-law respond to wrongful-death lawsuit

BY MICHAEL PERLUTTI

WINDSTORM MARIA — James Corbett died because he allegedly threatened to kill Thomas Marston and Molly Corbett, leaving Marston's 10-year-old son in the hospital and his wife in the hospital.

James Corbett's death was the result of his own negligence and his negligence towards his wife and his negligence towards his son.

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Tweet of the Week



Governor Roy Cooper  @NC_Governor · Sep 19
Gov. Cooper on [#GrahamCassidy](#) Health Care Legislation:



OFFICE OF GOVERNOR
ROY COOPER

The latest proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act may be even worse than previous proposals: raising premiums, weakening protections for people with pre-existing conditions, and slashing over \$1 billion from North Carolina's Medicaid program. North Carolina's middle-class families will be worse off if this passes.

Senate Republicans in Washington must work with Democrats to reach a bipartisan solution that expands health care coverage and makes it better.

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Governor Cooper's Press Office
Governor Cooper's Press Office
116 West Jones St.
Raleigh, NC 27603

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